

Staff Updates for Environmental Commission, March 2024

The Environmental Protection Agency has proposed to add the Gelman Sciences Inc. site, which spans portions of the City of Ann Arbor and Scio Township, to the Superfund National Priorities List (NPL). Public comment on the proposal began on March 7, 2024 and will run through May 6, 2024. The documents for public comment can be found here: <https://www.regulations.gov/docket/EPA-HQ-OLEM-2024-0067/document>.

The City of Ann Arbor held public workshops between March 12 and 14 to educate the public and receive feedback on three separate plans including the Comprehensive Plan, the Downtown Area Circulation Study, and the Downtown Development Authority (DDA) and Tax Increment Financing (TIF) Plan. The purpose of the meetings was to have a conversation about the future of Ann Arbor with the focus on downtown, build shared knowledge about the City and downtown area, and discuss ideas and visions for downtown. All materials are available online for those that were unable to attend, as well as the opportunity to provide comment: <https://a2compplan-a2-mi.hub.arcgis.com/pages/downtown-planning-workshops>

Ann Arbor City staff submitted a technical memorandum (memo) titled, "Staff Recommendations on Next Steps Related to Achieving 100% Renewable Energy by 2030" to City Council on February 20, 2024. To achieve the goal of 100% renewable energy powering the City's electrical grid by 2030, the recommendations include, among other things, holding a vote of the people to formally authorize the supplemental, municipally owned Sustainable Energy Utility (the SEU). A resolution supporting the advancement of an Ann Arbor SEU was introduced to the Energy Commission on March 12, 2024. The second reading of the resolution will occur during their April 6, 2024 meeting. The memo and the resolution can be found in the March 12 Energy Commission meeting minutes: <https://a2gov.legistar.com/View.ashx?M=M&ID=1148980&GUID=884E9E23-F590-4918-93D6-85B5A8EAEAFF>